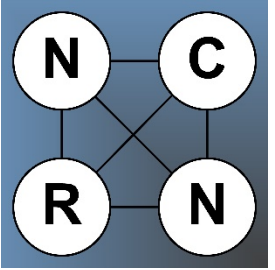
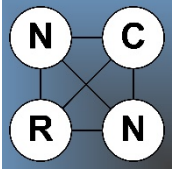


The NSF-Census Research Network in 2016

Taking stock, looking forward

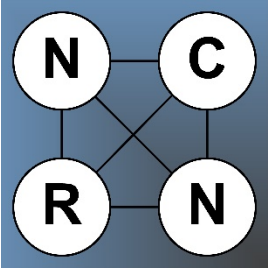


What is the NSF-Census Research Network?



What is the NSF-Census Research Network?

- The **NSF-Census Research Network** will provide support for a set of **research nodes**, each of which will be staffed by a team of scientists conducting **interdisciplinary research and educational activities** on **methodological questions of interest and significance to the broader research community and to the Federal Statistical System**, particularly the U.S. Census Bureau. The activities will be expected to **advance both fundamental and applied knowledge** as well as further the training of current and future generations of researchers in research skills of relevance to the measurement of economic units, households, and persons.



The nodes

NCRN Nodes

Eight nodes comprised of researchers conducting innovative, highly-interdisciplinary investigations of theory, methodology and computational tools of interest.

NCRN Coordinating Office

Carnegie-Mellon University

Cornell University

Duke University / National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS)

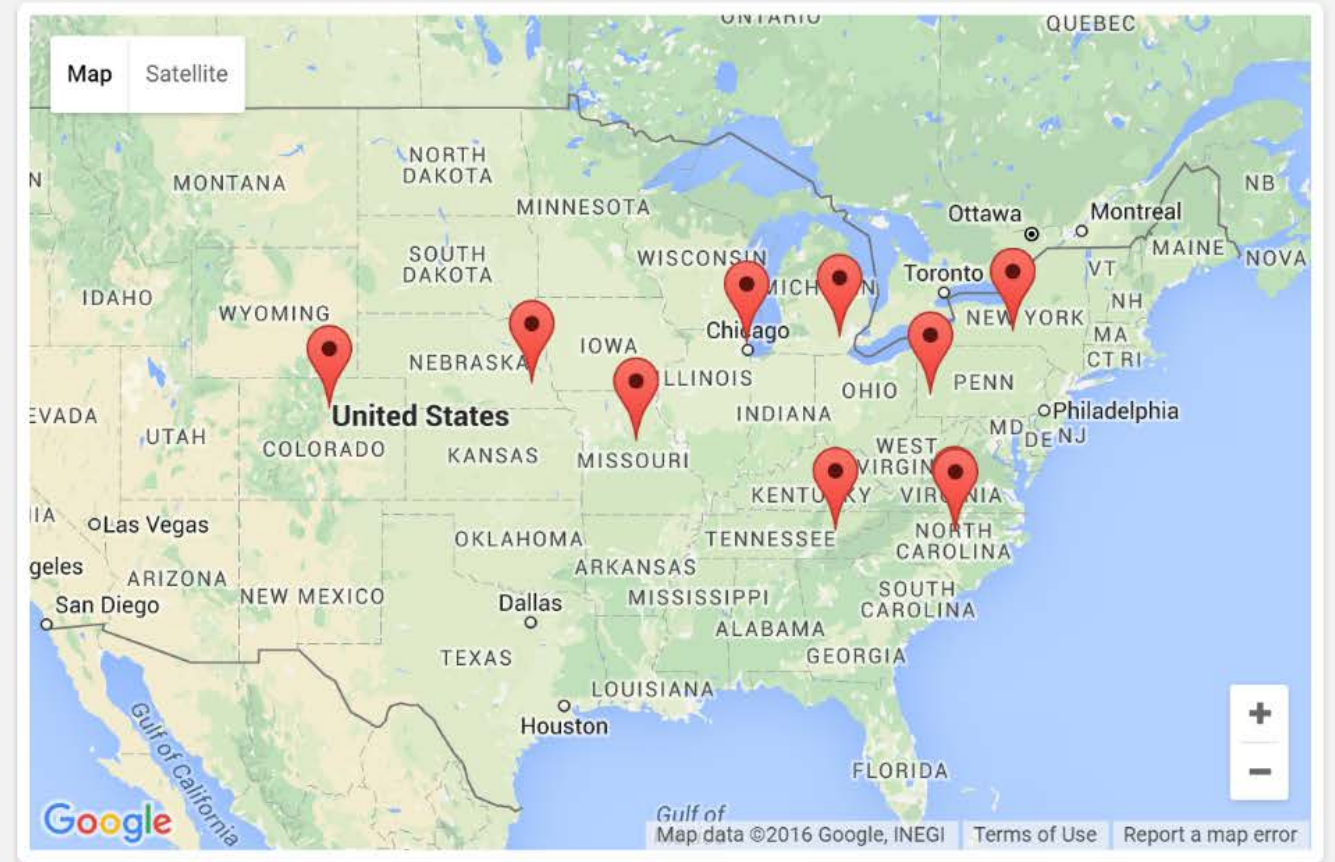
Northwestern University

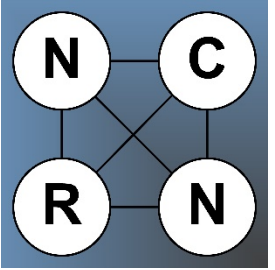
University of Colorado at Boulder / University of Tennessee

University of Michigan

University of Missouri

University of Nebraska





Network resources



Filter results by Node

- Any -

Northwestern University

University of Nebraska

University of Missouri

University of Michigan

Duke University / National
Institute of Statistical Sciences
(NISS)

Cornell University

University of Colorado at
Boulder / University of
Tennessee

Carnegie-Mellon University

Calendar

Upcoming Events

NCRN Virtual Seminar

MAY
20
NCRN Meetings

Past Events

[Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Design and Analysis for Official Statistics](#)

(By invitation only) The workshop will bring together experts in this emerging area, as well as those working on related research and applications. Additionally, the conference will also include participation from several young-researchers. The main goal of this workshop will be to facilitate discussion/collaboration on research related to the conference theme. Specifically, the workshop will consist of several scientific and breakout sessions in order to foster additional research avenues related to the workshop theme.

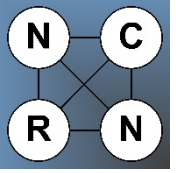
MAY
27
5:00pm
EDT

[Submission Deadline for Advanced Workshop On The SIPP Synthetic Beta \(SSB\)](#)

The Survey Research Center at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan and the United States Census Bureau invite applications to participate in a four-day workshop, **August 8-11, 2016**, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This advanced workshop will introduce participants to the use of the Survey of Income and Program Participation Synthetic Beta (SSB) and provide hands-on applications to prepare them to conduct their own SSB-based research.



NCRN Virtual Seminars

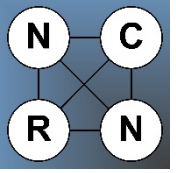


<http://www.ncrn.info/events/virtual-seminar>

- During semester, every first Wednesday of month
- Node members presenting on new work
- Recorded and available to the public



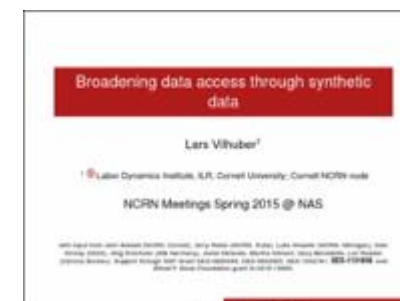
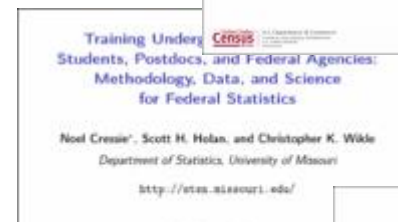
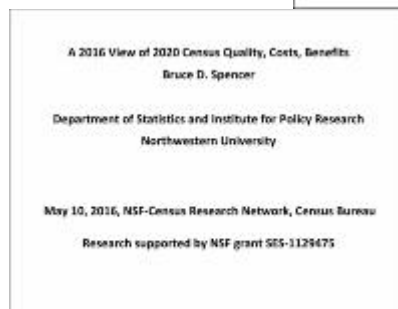
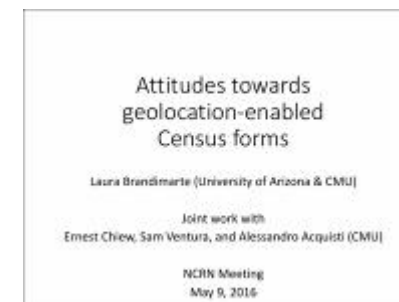
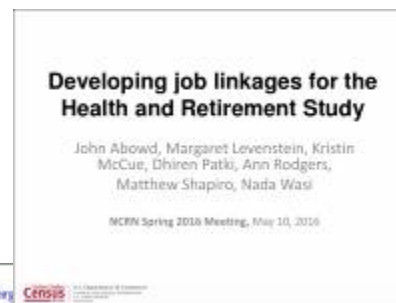
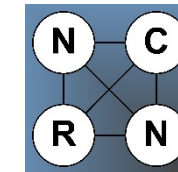
NCRN Meetings



<http://www.ncrn.info/events/meetings>

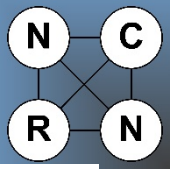
- Past meetings hosted: Duke/NISS, Census, Cornell
- Foster node interaction, with Census, BLS, NSF, other participants
- Presentations by nodes, of interest to nodes by Census, others
- Also used by PIs to plan next steps, interact with Census
- Next meeting Fall 2016

NCRN Meetings





NCRN Meetings



- Central archive of presentations

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This collection contains presentations made by NCRN Coordinating Office staff, as well as presentations made at conferences and meetings organized by the NCRN Coordinating Office.

Recent Submissions

NCRN Meeting Spring 2016: A 2016 View of 2020 Census Quality, Costs, Benefits

Spencer, Bruce D. (2016-05-10)

Census costs affect data quality and data quality affects census benefits. Although measuring census data quality is difficult enough ex post, census planning requires it to be done well in advance. The topic of this talk ...

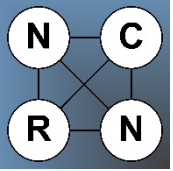
NCRN Meeting Spring 2016: Evaluating Data quality in Time Diary Surveys Using Paradata

Córdova Cazar, Ana Lucía; Belli, Robert (2016-05-10)

Over the past decades, time use researchers have been increasingly interested in analyzing wellbeing in tandem with the use of time (Juster and Stafford, 1985; Krueger et al, 2009). Many methodological issues have arose ...



NCRN Newsletter



- Communication between nodes, Census, outside parties
- Profiles of nodes



NSF-Census Research Network Newsletter

Vol. 2, Issue 1

NCRN Spring Meeting in Washington DC

The NCRN will hold its Spring 2015 meeting in Washington D.C. In collaboration with the National Academies' Committee on National Statistics, **John M. Abowd** (Cornell Node), and **Stephen E. Fienberg** (Carnegie Mellon Node) will present at the prestigious semi-annual "CNSTAT Public Seminar," at the National Academies' headquarters on May 8, 2015. Their talk is tentatively titled "Can Government-Academic Partnerships Help Secure the Future of the Federal Statistical System?" In addition, node members will present talks in a variety of parallel workshops on themes (yet to be

determined) in the morning, also at the National Academies.

On May 7, 2015, node members will be at the U.S. Census Bureau, for a number of research presentations with and for Census personnel, and to meet with their Census Bureau collaborators. More information will come available in early Spring, and will be made available at <http://www.ncrn.info/event/ncrn-meeting-spring-2015>.

Profile: University of Colorado-Boulder and University of Tennessee NCRN Research Node

University of Colorado-Boulder Assistant Professor of Geography **Seth Spielman** once owned a book store in the Flatiron Building in New York City, but now he is changing the map (literally) in the ways we look at Census data. He and **Nicholas Nagle**, He and Nicholas Nagle, the Principal Investigators of the joint University of Colorado-Boulder and University of Tennessee node of the NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) are working on some very exciting research projects involving maps and small area estimates.

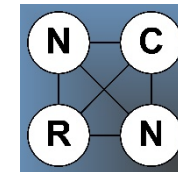
"The first thing we are trying, is to develop a case that geography and small area estimation are actually are not separate things," Spielman said.

Spielman noted that, people who trained to design design maps are rarely trained to design surveys (and vice versa), he believes that there is great potential in collaboration between these two groups. The group at Colorado is hoping to make the case that the design of geographies should be seen as part of the survey process. There are cer-

are areas that are truly just for the purpose of statistical calculation. There are about 75,000 Census tracts in the USA, people often think about them as neighborhoods.

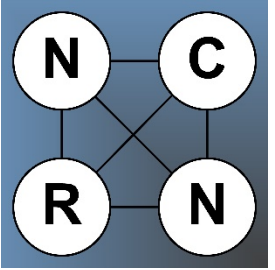
"Much like a jigsaw puzzle, the U.S. gets cut up into these 75,000 pieces. For each one of those jigsaw puzzle pieces, the Census Bureau produces an estimate of income, education and all of the other demographics. We are saying that how you make the jigsaw puzzle affects the quality of the data. People have concerns about data quality cur-





Other activities

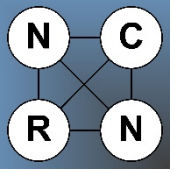
- Virtual programs for major conferences
- NCRN participants in
 - Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
 - Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) 2013, 2014
 - World Statistical Congress (WSC) 2015
 - others when substantial participation



Some outcomes



Research outcomes



- Over 400 articles, pre-prints

The screenshot displays the NSF-Census Research Network website. The header includes the network logo and the title "NSF-Census Research Network". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, News, Events, Documents (active), Nodes, Software, and Education. A breadcrumb trail shows "HOME > DOCUMENTS".

On the left side, there is a "Search bibliographies" section with a search bar and a "Search" button. Below this is a "Filter items" section with dropdown menus for Author (any), Type (any), Node (any), Year (any), and Keyword (any), along with a "Filter" button.

The main content area is titled "Documents" and shows "Export 401 results: BibTex RTF Tagged RIS". The results are categorized into three sections: "Submitted", "forthcoming", and "2016".

Submitted

Folch, D. C., and S. E. Spielman. "The Initialization of Seeded Regionalization Algorithms." *Journal of Geographical Systems* (Submitted).
[BibTex](#) [RTF](#) [Tagged](#) [RIS](#)

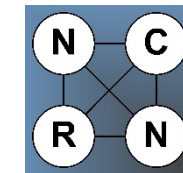
forthcoming

Belli, R.F., and T. Al Baghal. "Parallel associations and the structure of autobiographical knowledge. ." *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* (forthcoming). DOI: 10.1016/j.jarmac.2016.03.004.
[DOI](#) [BibTex](#) [RTF](#) [Tagged](#) [RIS](#)

2016

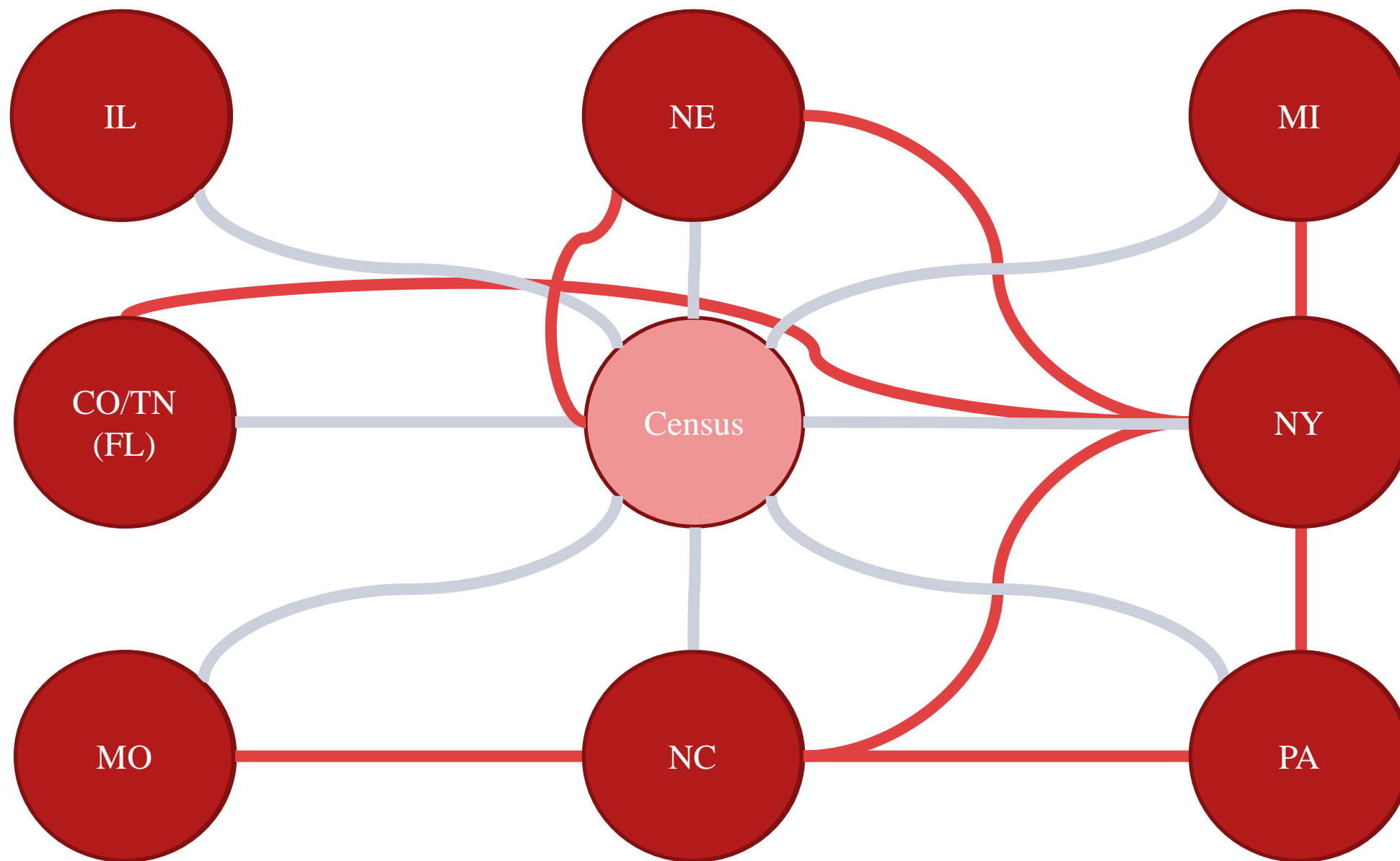
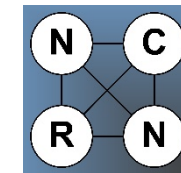
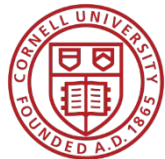
McClure, D., and J. P. Reiter. "Assessing disclosure risks for synthetic data with arbitrary intruder knowledge." *Statistical Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics* 32, no. 1 (2016): 109-126. DOI: 10.3233/SJI-160957, available at <http://content.iospress.com/download/statistical-journal-of-the-iaos/sji957>.
[DOI](#) [BibTex](#) [RTF](#) [Tagged](#) [RIS](#)

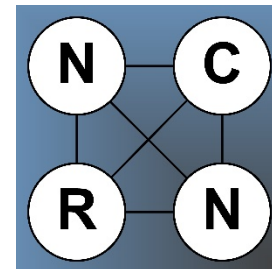
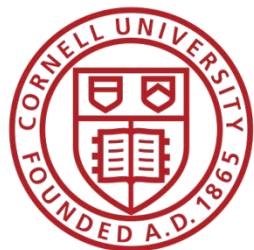
At the bottom, a partial entry for Schmitt, Ian M. is visible: "Differentially private publication of data on wages and job mobility." *Statistical Journal of the International Association for Official*



Educational outcomes

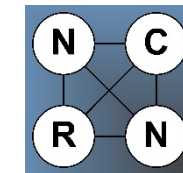
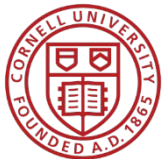
- Up to **46 graduate students** (MS, Ph.D.) and post-doctoral fellows being mentored in the network
- Additional undergraduate research
- More than **700 students** have taken undergraduate and graduate-level **classes**, as well as **short courses**





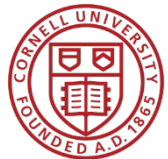
Big picture

Can the NCRN network evolve into something that more completely serves the federal statistical system?

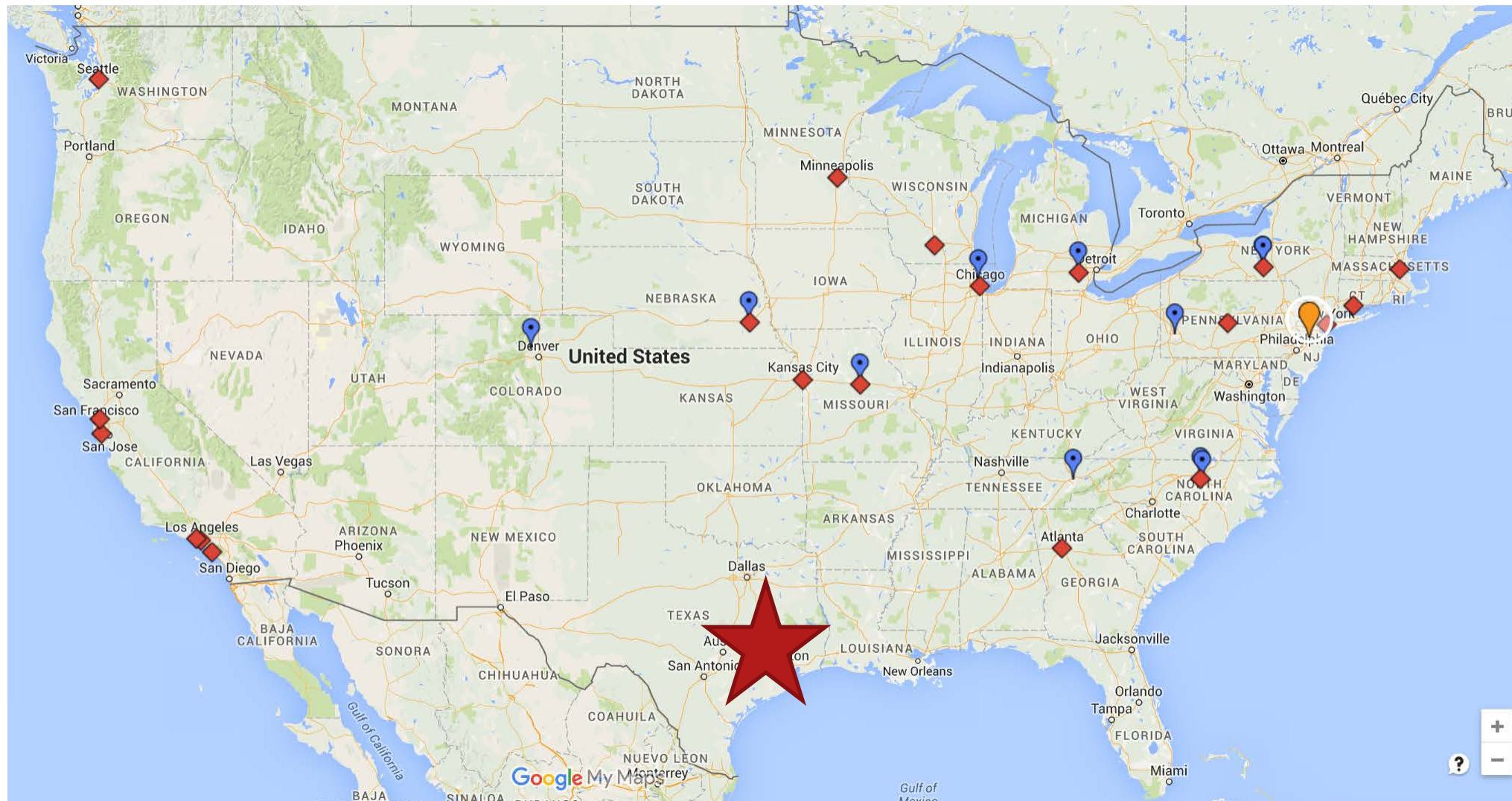
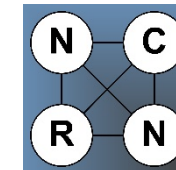


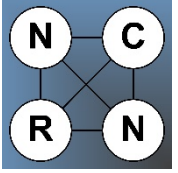
Identified efficiencies

- Education (**INFO7470**) and most nodes already overlap with RDC network (but have a broader focus than just RDC)
- **Short courses** are popular
- **Recruiting** so far done at NCRN nodes, but should be expanded to RDC, other universities with interest/connection to Census, FSS



NCRN and RDC nodes

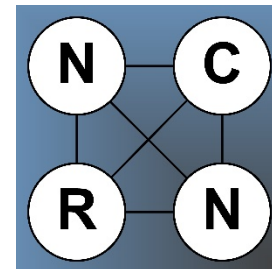
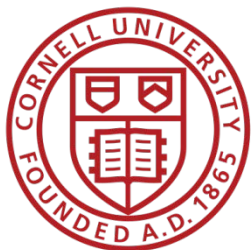




The sum of the pieces

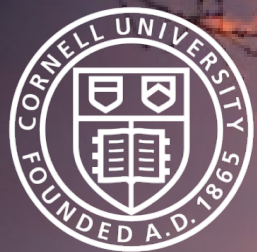
- Scope to increase the efficacy of research activities by enhancing network effects of existing and new collaborations between
 - Agencies (Census, BLS, NCHS, etc.)
 - Universities ("NCRN" nodes, RDCs, research contracts)
 - Research entities (Abt, NORC, RTI*, Westat, etc.) with research contracts
- Type of connection
 - Cooperative agreements
 - Interagency Personal Agreement (IPA) or Schedule-A
 - Internships, fellowships
 - Grants

* Not intended to advocate for any particular company. Former co-PI of this grant works for RTI.



Stay tuned

<http://www.ncrn.info>



Thank you

www.ncrn.info